THE GASTROENTEROLOGY GROUP, P.A.

DIPLOMATES OF THE AMERICAN BOARD OF INTERNAL MEDICINE AND GASTROENTEROLOGY JOHN J. KRAVITZ, M.D., EA.C.G. JOHN A. VOLPE, D.O. DAVID R. SALOWE, M.D. CRAIG R. BARASH, M.D.

November 13, 2000

Docket Management Branch Food and Drug Administration Department of Health Services Room 1-23 12420 Parklawn Drive Rockville, MD 20857

RE: DOCKET #00P-1499/CPI

Dear Sir:

I wish to voice my support for the continued use of Lotronex, a drug that has been produced by Glaxo Wellcome Company for better control of diarrheal component, as well as abdominal pain and bloating of irritable bowel syndrome. I found this drug, when used in the correct fashion, as indicated by the insert with the drug, is quite effective in controlling rather severe symptoms for patients of mine who laive literally become reclusive because of attacks of loose stool. As you may be aware, there are no drugs on the market which control the symptoms in as effective a vithout causing significant side effects. I believe continued judicious use of this drug would be advantageous to the public. As mentioned before, when used properly, there should be little or no side effects.

Sincerely yours,

John J. Kravitz, M.D.

JJK/cjb

ce: Lauren Dowd-Ivancienko Glaxo Wellcome, Inc. 3102 Dixon Avenue Bristol, PA 19007

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